

*congrats on getting this far!  
Good luck!*

Ministerul Educației Naționale  
Inspectoratul Școlar al Municipiului București  
OLIMPIADA DE LIMBA ENGLEZĂ 2013-2014 - Etapa pe sector – clasa a IX-a – varianta 1

I. (10 points) Read the text below and decide which variant (A, B, C or D) best fits each space.

Paragliding has become quite a popular sport in Britain. It involves flying through the air using a soft canopy, something (1)\_\_\_\_\_ a parachute, whereas hang-gliders use stiff wings to stay in the air. Paragliders are hoisted into the air using a boat or a car. You can go paragliding (2)\_\_\_\_\_ about anywhere; mountainous regions are the best because of the scenery and the currents of warm air which lift paragliders into the sky. To become a (3)\_\_\_\_\_ paraglider, around 12 practice flights are (4)\_\_\_\_\_. Beginners usually (5)\_\_\_\_\_ or borrow a glider and only need warm clothes and sturdy boots. On (6)\_\_\_\_\_ the rank of club pilot, most buy their own equipment, including a helmet and goggles. Those (7)\_\_\_\_\_ in paragliding will be glad to hear that there is no age (8)\_\_\_\_\_. Many enthusiasts don't (9)\_\_\_\_\_ up the sport until after they have retired. One paragliding champion described the sport as 'a (10)\_\_\_\_\_ adventure – a thrill'.

- |                  |              |             |              |
|------------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|
| 1. A. similar    | B. like      | C. close    | D. as        |
| 2. A. almost     | B. around    | C. near     | D. just      |
| 3. A. competent  | B. proper    | C. suitable | D. right     |
| 4. A. wanted     | B. required  | C. demanded | D. desired   |
| 5. A. engage     | B. hire      | C. take     | D. lend      |
| 6. A. holding    | B. owning    | C. reaching | D. taking    |
| 7. A. interested | B. concerned | C. cared    | D. attracted |
| 8. A. border     | B. limit     | C. boundary | D. deadline  |
| 9. A. make       | B. take      | C. turn     | D. get       |
| 10. A. right     | B. mere      | C. real     | D. strong    |

II. (10 points) Fill the gaps in the text below with ONE suitable word:

They call Jamaica the "Island in the Sun", and that is my memory (1)\_\_\_\_\_ it. Of sunshine, warmth and abundant fruit growing everywhere, and of love. I was born on 2 April 1960 in St Andrews in Kingston. There were two sisters (2)\_\_\_\_\_ of me in the family, and though, of course, I didn't know it, (3)\_\_\_\_\_ was excited talk of emigration, possibly to Canada but more usually to England, the (4)\_\_\_\_\_ of opportunity. I guess that plans (5)\_\_\_\_\_ already being made when I was born, for a year or so later, my Dad left (6)\_\_\_\_\_ London. Two years after that, when he (7)\_\_\_\_\_ saved enough money, my Mum went as (8)\_\_\_\_\_, and my sisters and I were (9)\_\_\_\_\_ in the care of my grandmother. I stayed with her, in her house near the centre of Kingston, (10)\_\_\_\_\_ I was seven years old. My grandmother, therefore, shaped my life, and I believe I am all the better for it.

III. (10 points) Read the text below and use the words given in capitals to form words that fit in the gaps. The words in capitals are given in the order in which you need to use them:

1-COMPLAIN 2-EMPLOY 3-SUSPEND 4-NECESSITY 5-COMPARE 6-CONCERN 7-ARGUE 8-PRODUCT 9-FREE 10-COMFORT

British companies have received criticism from a business forum for what their report refers to as a rather narrow-minded attitude towards the dress code for office workers. This follows a (1)\_\_\_\_\_ made by a male (2)\_\_\_\_\_ working in the back office of a large organization, after he received a (3)\_\_\_\_\_ for wearing jeans to work.

There is a need for people dealing with customers to look well dressed, the report accepts, but it questions whether employees working behind the scenes (4)\_\_\_\_\_ need to dress formally. The authors of the report made a (5)\_\_\_\_\_ between the UK and other European nations where employers seem (6)\_\_\_\_\_ about the need for their workers to wear smart clothes in the office. Their (7)\_\_\_\_\_ is based on research that claims workers are far more (8)\_\_\_\_\_ when they have the (9)\_\_\_\_\_ to dress in a way that they feel most (10)\_\_\_\_\_ in.



IV. (20 points) Rephrase the following sentences so that they contain the words in capitals, and so that the meaning stays the same:

- |  |           |
|--|-----------|
| 1. 'How much have you paid for the theatre tickets?', Richard asked.<br>Richard wanted to _____                                  | COST      |
| 2. It wasn't a good idea for you to delete that file.<br>You _____ that file.  | SHOULD    |
| 3. The ferry couldn't sail because the storm was very bad.<br>The ferry couldn't sail _____ storm.                               | DUE       |
| 4. I don't understand what you are saying.<br>I can't _____ what you are saying.   | MAKE      |
| 5. 'You can watch if you keep quiet', said the actor.<br>The actor said that I could watch _____ quiet.                          | PROVIDED  |
| 6. I don't really like going out on a snowy afternoon.<br>I'm not _____ out on a snowy afternoon.                                | KEEN      |
| 7. After hours of negotiation, they managed to get the new contract.<br>After hours of negotiation, they _____ the new contract. | SUCCEEDED |
| 8. No sooner had the fireman come out than the building collapsed.<br>The fireman _____ the building collapsed.                  | JUST      |
| 9. Please, do not drop litter in the park.<br>You _____ drop litter in the park.   | REQUESTED |
| 10. 'Shall we go out?' said Marge.<br>Marge _____ out.   | SUGGESTED |

V. (50 points) - INFORMAL LETTER

You see this advertisement which invites teenagers to take part in a photo competition.

*National Geographic Photo Contest 2014*

*We are launching a photo contest for teenagers all over the world.*

*Submit your entries online to the National Geographic Photo Contest 2014 in either of these two categories: People and Places.*

*The competition will be judged on creativity and photographic quality by a panel of experts.*

*The Grand Prize Winner will receive a trip to National Geographic headquarters in Washington, D.C.*

Write a **120-150-word letter** to your friend Tim/Tina and tell him/her how excited you are to take part in the contest. Write about your most interesting photos and ask Tim/Tina to help you decide which to select for the contest. **Sign your letter as Sam.**

Think about:

- the information in the advertisement;
- the layout and the organisation of the letter;
- the appropriate style for the letter;
- introductory and closing remarks.

**SCRIEȚI RĂSPUNSURILE PE FOAIA DE RĂSPUNS (ANSWER SHEET). BARĂȚI TOATE SPAȚIILE NECOMPLETATE. TIMP DE LUCRU: 3 ORE. NU SE ACORDĂ PUNCTE DIN OFICIU.**



INSPECTORATUL ȘCOLAR AL MUNICIPIULUI BUCUREȘTI

OLIMPIADA DE LIMBA ENGLEZĂ 2013-2014

ETAPA PE SECTOR – CLASA a IX-a – varianta 1

PUNCTAJ SI BAREM

I. (10 puncte)

1.B 2.D 3.A 4.B 5.B 6.C 7.A 8.B 9.B 10.C

II. (10 puncte)

1- of 2-ahead 3-there 4-land 5-were 6-for 7-had 8-well 9-left 10-until/till

III. (10 puncte)

1.complaint 2.employee 3.suspension 4 necessarily 5.comparison 6.unconcerned  
7.argument 8.productive 9.freedom 10.comfortable

IV. (20 puncte) Rephrase the following sentences so that the meaning stays the same:

1. know how much the theatre tickets had cost
2. should not have deleted
3. due to the bad
4. make out
5. provided (that) I kept
6. (really) keen on going
7. succeeded in getting
8. had just come out when
9. are requested not to
10. suggested (that) we go/we went/we should go/going

V. (50 puncte) Letter writing – *informal* - 120-150 words

vezi GRILA PENTRU CORECTAREA LUCRĂRILOR SCRISE (Descriptori)

NOTĂ: Pentru subiectele II și IV se acceptă orice variantă posibilă corectă.

NU SE ACORDĂ PUNCTE DIN OFICIU.